## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

EDDIE and SHARON LESTER, et al., : CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:01-CV-1182

Plaintiffs :

(Chief Judge Conner)

v.

:

GENE PERCUDANI, et al.,

**Defendants** :

PABLO ACRE, et al., : CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:04-CV-0832

**Plaintiffs** 

: (Chief Judge Conner)

:

CHASE MANHATTAN :

v.

MORTGAGE CORP., et al.,

Defendants

## **ORDER**

AND NOW, this 27th day of November, 2013, upon consideration of defendants' motion (Case No. 3:01-CV-1182, Doc. 560) for attorneys' fees and sanctions, wherein defendants Gene Percudani, Chapel Creek Homes, Inc., Raintree Homes, Inc., Homes by Vintage, Inc., Y-Rent, Inc., and Chapel Creek Mortgage Banker, Inc. (hereinafter "defendants") seek attorneys' fees of \$39,114.73 and sanctions of double that amount, and the court recognizing that it has the inherent power to impose sanctions, such as attorneys' fees, when a party has unreasonably multiplied proceedings or otherwise acted in "bad faith, vexatiously, wantonly, or for oppressive reasons," Hobbs & Co. v. Am. Investors Mgmt., Inc., 576 F.2d 29, 35 n.18 (3d Cir. 1978); see also 28 U.S.C. § 1927; Chambers v. NASCO, Inc., 501 U.S. 32, 43-46 (1991), and the court determining that such an award is not

warranted in the instant matter,<sup>1</sup> it is hereby ORDERED that defendants' motion (Case No. 3:01-CV-1182, Doc. 560) is DENIED.

/S/ Christopher C. Conner

Christopher C. Conner, Chief Judge United States District Court Middle District of Pennsylvania

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants assert that plaintiffs acted in bad faith by representing in their motion to enforce the parties' settlement agreement (Case No. 3:01-CV-1182, Doc. 515; Case No. 1:04-CV-0832, Doc. 383) that they had obtained all of the required bankruptcy orders and releases. Defendants point to this court's recent memorandum and order (Case No. 3:01-CV-1182, Docs. 554, 555; Case No. 1:04-CV-0832, Docs. 410, 411), which directs plaintiffs to provide a few new releases and additional bankruptcy orders prior to final enforcement of the settlement agreement, as evidence that plaintiffs acted in bad faith. However, the court only determined that a few new releases and additional bankruptcy orders were necessary after a rather detailed review of the particular plaintiff's unique circumstances. The court ultimately determined that plaintiffs' position was incorrect, but that determination does not equate to a finding that plaintiffs' position was taken in bad faith or for the purpose of multiplying the proceedings.